

1999-5927

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Subject: Comments on Grand Canyon overflight rules

COMMENTS ON GRAND CANYON OVERFLIGHT RULES
Submitted by Fred Swanson (fswan2406@aol.com)
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Docket No. FAA-99-5927 -4

Sirs, .

I encourage you to take all possible steps to minimize noise from aircraft overflights in the Grand Canyon. I have found in past years that the noise from helicopters, especially, has become so annoying in some of our national parks that I no longer wish to visit them. The situation is worst at Grand Canyon and in Hawaii Volcanoes. .

One reason that the Park Service may receive relatively few complaints about aircraft noise is that people like me who value natural quiet simply choose to go elsewhere. This constitutes an impact on the visitor experience every bit as much as on those who actually visit the parks. I'd like to see the Grand Canyon again, but I'm going to wait until I can enjoy the experience without the constant drone, buzz, and chop-chop of airplanes and helicopters!

I would like to submit another opinion on this matter. It comes from a young person named Clyde Kluckhohn who first visited the Grand Canyon in 1923. Ten years after his visit, he wrote in his book "Beyond the Rainbow:"

"Airplanes are very marvelous and very useful, but they and the other instruments of our technical civilization are destroying all too quickly the type of conditions out of which the American character developed. Let us leave for coming generations this one corner where they can approach the feelings their ancestors had during the winning of the West. How else can we draw near to those who shaped America?

What was valid 66 years ago, when America still had some real wilderness, is all the more appropriate today. Please restore quiet to the Grand Canyon.

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